

# Martha's Vineyard Horse Council

Shows and Events

2026



Visit our website: [mvhorsecouncil.com](http://mvhorsecouncil.com)



# Martha's Vineyard Horse Council

The MVHC is a non-profit organization comprised of horse lovers, trainers, professionals and pleasure enthusiasts.

MVHC works to bring together all horse lovers on Martha's Vineyard, to promote horses and their related activities, and to provide educational clinics, seminars and youth programs for its membership.

You don't just join the Martha's Vineyard Horse Council, you become part of the Island horse community.

Monthly meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of each month, except August, at the Martha's Vineyard Agricultural Hall, 35 Panhandle Rd, West Tisbury, unless otherwise noted on the website, mvhorceouncil.com.

Membership is required to participate in MVHC shows and events. Membership is valid for one calendar year starting in January.

## MVHC Officers and Committee Chairs

### **President**

Jill Lane  
774-836-6187  
jilllane02568@gmail.com

### **Vice President**

Kirsten Marzbanian  
508-560-3115  
Kmarzbanian@gmail.com

### **Secretary**

Tara Whiting-Wells  
508-274-3179  
tarajw@yahoo.com

### **Treasurer**

Vici Surr  
508-693-3882  
viciurr@gmail.com

### **Webmaster**

Vici Surr

### **Dressage**

Jennifer Rand

### **Horse Shows**

Sam Look

### **Pace Rides**

Stephanie Dryer

### **Education/Equine Aid**

Julie Flanders

### **Welfare**

Jennifer Rand

### **Scholarship**

Clare Harrington

# MVHC RULES & REGULATIONS

*All participants must be a current member to register for MVHC events\**

*Participants must be familiar with MVHC event rules and regulations*

The MVHC, event organizers, officials or clinicians will not be responsible for any accident that may occur to any animal, person or property and each participant shall hold them harmless and indemnify them against any legal proceedings or liabilities arising from any such accident, or loss of property caused to or by property or employee of such participant.

## **General:**

- The MVHC reserves the right to change officials or clinicians, decline any entry, revise time schedule, cancel any class where there is less than two entries, combine classes or divide any class in the best interest of the event.
- Neat attire, including helmet and boots, shall be worn by all riders at all events.
- Proof of negative Coggins must accompany each entry. Coggins tests must be dated within six months for out-of-state horses and 24 months for Massachusetts horses. Other vaccinations should also be current.
- All riders must wear properly fitted ASTM/SEI-certified protective headgear with the harness secured at all times when mounted on competition grounds. Any rider violating this rule will be immediately prohibited from further riding until such headgear is properly in place. It is the responsibility of the parent or guardian of the junior exhibitor to see that the headgear worn complies with such standards.
- Stalls at the Ag Hall barn are charged per day on a first come basis. Participants are responsible for cleaning their stall and area around their stall before leaving the show grounds. A cleaning fee will be charged for any stall not properly cleaned.
- Under Massachusetts Law an equine professional is not liable for an injury to or the death of a participant in equine activities pursuant to section 2D of Chapter 128 of the General Law.

## **Horse Shows:**

- Horses entered and not exhibited shall forfeit fees, unless the committee is presented with a veterinary certificate, or in equitation only, a physician's certificate
- No participant or person shall approach the judge unless he first obtains permission from the show manager. Any exhibitor or person disregarding this rule may be asked to cancel all entries and forfeit entry fees. Judges' decisions are final.
- Champion and Reserve ribbons may be awarded in all divisions to the top two horses who have acquired the most points in their divisions. Points will be awarded through 6th place: 10, 8, 6, 4, 2, 1. There must be at least three entries in the first over fences class in all hunter divisions and at least two entries in all other classes unless otherwise stated for championship and year-end points to be awarded. To be eligible for championship and reserve, the exhibitor must have shown in at least one other qualifying class in the division.
- A trophy may be presented in all classes.
- Post entry fees may apply to entries not received by a given date before the show.

\*Horse related events including horse shows, clinics, trail rides, hunter paces and meetings.

## 2026 MVHC Events

*The MVHC will be offering year end awards in 2026.*

*To be eligible one must participate in two out of the three shows in the Open Show Series.*

May 17, 2026

**Spring Fling Open Show & Tack Sale**

Judge: Tobi Stall

June 6, 2026

**Dressage Show**

Judge: Lainey Johnson

June 11, 2026, 6:00 pm

**MV Horse Council Meeting**

June 28, 2026

**Trail Ride**

July 9, 2026, 6:00 pm

**MV Horse Council Meeting**

TBA, 2026

**Mid-Summer Open Show**

Judge: Steve Lampson

August 16, 2026, 10:00 am

**MV Horse Council Demonstrations at the Martha's Vineyard Agricultural Fair**

September 10, 2026, 6:00 pm

**MV Horse Council Meeting**

October 8, 2026, 6:00 pm

**MV Horse Council Meeting**

October 18, 2026

**Fall Fuzzy Open Show**

Judge: TBA

November 12, 2026, 6:00 pm

**MV Horse Council Annual Meeting and Election of Officers**

December 8, 2026, 6:00 pm

**MV Horse Council Meeting**

*Entry forms are available on the MVHC website. Check the website for updates to these events and events that have not yet been listed.*  
[mvhorsecouncil.com](http://mvhorsecouncil.com)



# PLAN AHEAD

## For the MVHC William M. Honey Scholarship

All applicants must be paid members of the MVHC for three years prior to application.

Keep your membership up to date to qualify for this scholarship.

*Applications for the Horse Council Scholarship are due each March. See the MVHC website or your high school guidance counselor for details.*



A beautiful country setting overlooking Bliss Pond, rolling hills, grazing horses and ancient stone walls.

This historic

Bed & Breakfast is

a wonderful site for a

reception as well as

a ceremony.

---

508-645-3123

[captainflandersinn.com](http://captainflandersinn.com)



*Elegant old Vineyard charm in Chilmark*

# Martha's Vineyard Horse Council Open Horse Show Series

Warm-up opens at 7:45 • Classes begin at 9:00

Classes may be split to accommodate large groups and/or multiple riders sharing a horse or pony. When a split occurs, the show committee will make every effort to split groups according to age and experience.

If you don't see something that you were hoping we would include, please just let us know! The intent of the show committee is to include as many riders as possible.

Show attire is not required, but all riders must wear helmets and boots.

Stalls are available on a first come-first served basis. The stall must be left clean.

If you need help finding someone to trailer your horse to the show, we can provide a list of people who have offered their services for this event. *Entry forms and membership applications are available on the MVHC website: [mvhorsecouncil.com](http://mvhorsecouncil.com)*

*The MVHC will be offering year end awards in 2026.*

*To be eligible one must participate in two out of the three shows in the Open Show Series.*

## CLASS LIST

### In Hand Division

1. Fitting and Showmanship (no charge, open to all ages, all disciplines). Judged on appearance of horse: condition, grooming, braiding, tack care & ground manners. Rider does not need to be in formal show clothes but should be neat and clean.
27. In Hand Class: Open to all ages. Handlers may be asked to walk and trot their horses in hand, and navigate obstacles.

### Leadline Division

Open to all riders. Leader must be 14 years+. Shown at the walk and individually at the trot. Riders under 5 must have a spotter.

2. Leadline Equitation
3. Leadline Pleasure

### Short/Long Stirrup Division

Open to any and all riders, regardless of age, who walk, trot, canter and jump 18" (riders can also opt to do the course as trotting poles if more comfortable)

4. Short/Long Stirrup Equitation
5. Short/Long Stirrup Pleasure
6. Short/Long Stirrup Equitation Over Fences (18", four-six fences)
7. Short/Long Stirrup Hunter Over Fences (18", four-six fences)

### Adult Division

Open to all riders, 18 and older, who walk, trot, canter and jump 2' or higher. Each rider can pick their course height and complexity, 2'- 2' 9".

8. Adult Equitation on the Flat

9. Adult Equitation Over Fences
10. Adult Hunter Under Saddle
11. Adult Hunter Over Fences
12. Adult Hunter Equitation Over Fences

### **Junior Division**

Open to all riders, under the age of 18 yrs, who walk, trot, canter and jump 2' or higher. Each rider can pick their course height and complexity, 2'- 2' 9".

13. Junior Equitation on the Flat
14. Junior Equitation Over Fences
15. Junior Hunter Under Saddle
16. Junior Hunter Over Fences
17. Junior Hunter Equitation Over Fences

### **Green Horse/Pony Division**

Open to riders of all ages on any horse or pony in its first year of showing.

18. Green Horse/Pony Hunter Under Saddle
19. Green Horse/Pony Hunter Suitability
20. Green Horse/Pony Pleasure

### **Walk Trot Division**

Open to all riders under age 18.

21. Walk Trot Equitation
22. Walk Trot Pleasure
23. Walk Trot Horsemanship

### **Walk Trot Canter Division**

Open to all riders under age 18.

24. Walk Trot Canter Equitation
25. Walk Trot Canter Pleasure
26. Walk Trot Canter, trot poles (riders will individually navigate a short course of poles)

### **Adult Walk Trot (and Canter) Division**

Open to all riders 18 and over. Walk, trot in both directions and canter at rider's discretion – not at all, one at a time, only one side of the ring, etc.

28. Adult Walk Trot (and Canter by choice) Equitation
29. Adult Walk Trot (and Canter by choice) Pleasure
30. Adult Walk Trot (and Canter by choice) Horsemanship

## **Pleasure Division**

Open to all riders, regardless of age. Emphasis on demeanor and harmony of horse and rider team. May be ridden in any tack (Western, English, Dressage, etc.).

31. Open Pleasure
32. Pleasure Horse and Pony (emphasis on transitions)
33. Pleasure Hack (may include extensions and hand gallop)
34. Pairs Class: Open to riders of all ages.

## **Western Division**

Open to all riders, regardless of age.

35. Western Equitation
36. Western Pleasure
37. Western Horsemanship

## **Working Equitation Division**

Open to all riders, regardless of age. Riders will navigate a course of obstacles set up outside the ring. Emphasis on demeanor and harmony of horse and rider team. May be ridden in any tack (Western, English, Dressage, etc.).

38. Working Equitation

## **Games Division**

39. Apple Drop: Maneuver your horse to pick up apples and move them to new locations, including tops of standards, fence posts and/or dropping them in buckets. Fastest time with all apples successfully in the right places wins.
40. Crepe Paper Pairs: Two horses ride in sync, with riders holding a piece of crepe.
41. Egg and Spoon: See how long you can ride while holding an egg and spoon in one hand.
42. Barrel Racing/Pole Bending: Race through a figure of barrels (or standards). Fastest time wins.
43. Sit-a-Buck: Remember a \$5 bill to ride with! Test your seat, how long can you keep a \$5 bill from flying out. May be ridden bareback or with a saddle. Winner takes all the \$5 bills!
44. Izzy Dizzy: From start line, ride pony to a marked location. Dismount, hand pony to a person. Put head on bat, spin 7 full circles, then RUN back to start line.
45. Wheelbarrow Race: From start line, two riders ride pony to a marked location. Hand pony to a person. One rider gets into a wheelbarrow and is pushed by the other rider back to start line.
46. Costume Class

## TIME TABLE

Classes start at 9:00 am

1. Fitting and Showmanship
2. Leadline Equitation
3. Leadline Pleasure
4. Short/Long Stirrup Equitation
5. Short/Long Stirrup Pleasure
6. Short/Long Stirrup Equitation Over Fences
7. Short/Long Stirrup Hunter Over Fences
8. Adult Equitation on the Flat
9. Adult Equitation Over Fences
10. Adult Hunter Under Saddle
11. Adult Hunter Over Fences
12. Adult Hunter Equitation Over Fences
13. Junior Equitation on the Flat
14. Junior Equitation Over Fences
15. Junior Hunter Under Saddle
16. Junior Hunter Over Fences
17. Junior Hunter Equitation Over Fences
18. Green Horse/Pony Hunter Under Saddle
19. Green Horse/Pony Hunter Suitability
20. Green Horse/Pony Pleasure
21. Walk Trot Equitation
22. Walk Trot Pleasure
23. Walk Trot Horsemanship
24. Walk Trot Canter Equitation
25. Walk Trot Canter Pleasure
26. Walk Trot Canter, trot poles
27. In Hand Class
28. Adult Walk Trot (and Canter by choice) Equitation
29. Adult Walk Trot (and Canter by choice) Pleasure
30. Adult Walk Trot (and Canter by choice) Horsemanship
31. Open Pleasure
32. Pleasure Horse and Pony (emphasis on transitions)
33. Pleasure Hack (may include extensions and hand gallop)
34. Pairs Class
35. Western Equitation
36. Western Pleasure
37. Western Horsemanship
38. Working Equitation
39. Apple Drop
40. Crepe Paper Pairs
41. Egg and Spoon
42. Barrel Racing/Pole Bending
43. Sit-a-Buck
44. Izzy Dizzy
45. Wheelbarrow Race
46. Costume Class

# Martha's Vineyard Horse Council Fun Day

June 6, 2026

## SCHOOLING DRESSAGE SHOW

Dressage Judge: Lainey Johnson

## WORKING EQUITATION OBSTACLE COURSE

MV Agricultural Hall  
35 Panhandle Rd, West Tisbury, MA  
9:00AM Start Time

**Entry Fee: \$25 per Dressage Class  
\$20 Working Equitation Obstacle Course  
must be included with entry form**

**Entry Due Date: June 1, 2026**

**Exhibitors MUST be current members of  
Martha's Vineyard Horse Council, Inc. to show.**

*Entry Forms and Membership Applications are available on the  
MVHC website: [mvhorsecouncil.com](http://mvhorsecouncil.com)*



### Class List

1. Intro Level Test A
2. Intro Level Test B
3. Intro Level Test C
4. Training Level Test 1
5. Training Level Test 2
6. Training Level Test 3
7. First Level Test 1
8. First Level Test 2
9. First Level Test 3
10. Test of Choice (2<sup>nd</sup> through 4<sup>th</sup>,
11. Eventing Test of Choice
12. Western Dressage Test of Choice
13. Working Equitation Obstacle Course. Numbered obstacles/patterns. Ride any from one to all. Can be done at the walk, trot or canter. Ribbons for the number of obstacles completed.



# Martha's Vineyard Horse Council, Inc.

## Membership Form

Renew  New For Year \_\_\_\_\_

### Membership Type:

\$20 Junior (under 18 years of age)  \$25 Adult (18 years and older)  \$40 Family (up to 2 Adults and 2 Juniors)

Member's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ If Junior, Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

### For Family Membership only:

Additional Adult Name \_\_\_\_\_

1st Junior Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

2nd Junior Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

### Rider's Discipline:

Please select your primary discipline (1) and other choices (2, 3, etc.)

- |  |                                      |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dressage      | <input type="checkbox"/> Trail       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hunter/Jumper | <input type="checkbox"/> Endurance   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Eventing      | <input type="checkbox"/> Driving     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Western       | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

**For Office Use Only:**

Member No. \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Payment type \_\_\_\_\_

### Payment:

Donation to MVHC General Programming: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Donation to MVHC Scholarship Fund: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Membership: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Subtotal: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Add 3% if paying by Venmo: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Make check or money order

payable to: **MVHC, Inc.**

Mail completed form  
and payment to:

PO Box 833

West Tisbury, MA 02575

**Pay by Venmo:** (add a 3%  
service fee) @mvhorses

**Total:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

# Martha's Vineyard Horse Council Awards

## Fisher Memorial Award

### Donated In Loving Memory Of Anne And Tony Fisher

*This award is given to the individual(s) who best exemplify the spirit of Anne and Tony through improvement and beautification of the island; be it at home, farm, or business.*

## Leadership Award

*The MVHC Leadership Award is to honor the adult that has shown by their example the qualities of a leader, sportsman and horseman throughout the year. It is awarded to the person who has been the most unstinting in their efforts to aid the horse community of Martha's Vineyard whether through volunteer, professional, private or behind the scenes activities. The recipient is not necessarily a member of MVHC but should be someone who has taken a leadership role in the community in a way that directly or indirectly benefits the equine community.*

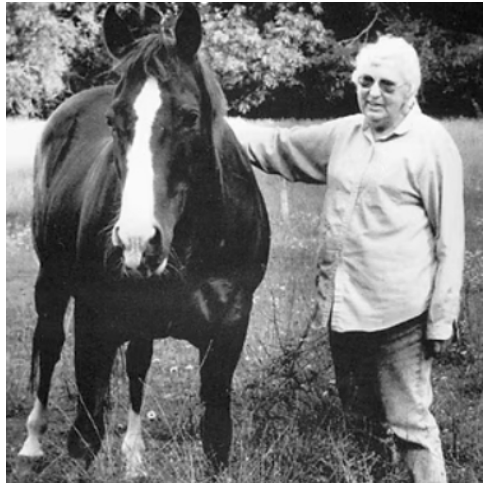


*Sandra F. Hillman*

## Hillman Award Of Special Recognition

### Donated In Loving Memory of Sandra F. Hillman

*This award is given to a junior member of the MVHC who best exemplifies what it means to be a true horseman. This member will show care and concern for horses as well as other people in the equestrian community.*



*Marjorie Manter*

## Marjorie Manter Award

*Given in honor of Marjorie Manter who gave of herself unselfishly to the horse community by teaching, riding and horsemanship. This award is presented to the person who exemplifies Marjorie's good will and spirit.*

# Martha's Vineyard Horse Council

## Annual Awards

*The MVHC will be offering year end awards in 2026. To be eligible one must participate in two out of the three shows in the Open Show Series.*

### Flash Me a Smile Cup

*Awarded to the horse or pony who has gone above and beyond to serve his or her riders.*

*Flash Me a Smile is an elderly chestnut pony who is a favorite at Pond View Farm.*

*Years ago, Flash broke his leg while he was turned out. The break was severe and no one thought the pony would survive. The Pond View kids pulled together and raised \$11,000 to cover Flash's veterinary expenses.*

*Flash beat the odds to recover and spent his days teaching little ones the basics at Pond View. Flash has now crossed the rainbow bridge, and is missed by all who knew him.*

### Versatility Gold Award

*Participate in all the MVHC 2026 events and receive a Gold Award.*

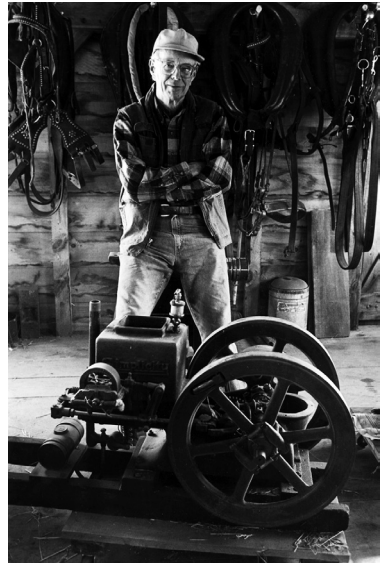
### Martha's Vineyard Horse Council Scholarship in Memory of William M. Honey

*William M. Honey was the quiet, bespectacled, former longtime president of the Martha's Vineyard National Bank and one of the last of a breed of small-town bankers who loaned money to Islanders in need with no paperwork and no questions asked.*

*For nearly 25 years he presided over the Martha's Vineyard National Bank in the bank's historic stone-built headquarters on Main Street, Vineyard Haven.*

*After his retirement from the bank in 1984, he lived in West Tisbury, and in those years was better known as a farmer, livestock man and tinkerer with antique engines. He had always loved horses and like a true Islander, lived simply and close to the land.*

*Applicants for this scholarship must be a paid member of the MVHC for three years prior to application. Applications are due each March. See the MVHC website or your high school guidance counselor for details.*



*William Honey*

# JOHN KEENE

---

## EXCAVATION

---

### We Sell:

- Bark Mulch
- Topsoil
- Island Compost
- Garden Blends
- Imported Wall Stone
- 1 1/2" Gravel
- 3/4" Brown & Blue Gravel
- 3/8" Brown & Blue Pea stone
- Tailings
- Recycled Asphalt Product (R.A.P.)
- Island Stones
- Shells
- T-Shirts

And much more.....



**Premium Blend Mulch  
Available**

**We are available for all your off-island trucking needs!**

Monday – Friday: 7:30 am – 4:30 pm • Saturdays: 8:00 am – 12 noon

#25 Old Stage Road in West Tisbury

**508.693.5975 or 508.693.0025**

[www.johnkeene.com](http://www.johnkeene.com)

[office@johnkeene.com](mailto:office@johnkeene.com)

# FLANDERS

---

*Up-Island Real Estate*

Chilmark, Martha's Vineyard



*A family owned and operated business specializing in sales and rentals since 1927*

Julianna Flanders  
Elizabeth J. Carroll  
Jessica Campbell

[www.FlandersRealEstate.net](http://www.FlandersRealEstate.net)

39 State Road  
Chilmark  
508-645-2632



Springmoon Farm

# SBS

Smith Bodfish Swift

Farm & Garden Outfitters

508.696.7271